

HIGH PRESSURE'S TOUGH JOB

TACKLES ITS FIERCEST FIRE YET AND CONQUERS.

Three Alarms Necessary to Get Enough Men, but None of the Fourteen Engines Did a Stroke—Flames Drowned Out by 600,000 Gallons of Water.

Although the high pressure water system again proved its effectiveness at a fire that gutted the five-story building at 387 and 389 West Broadway yesterday, the blaze was going at such a terrific rate by the time the first engine rolled up that Deputy Chief Joe Martin, who was boss of the department in the absence of Chief Croker, found it necessary to tap in three alarms in order to get enough men to man the lines.

It was the worst and the toughest fire in the high pressure zone since the system was installed and gave the firemen as hard a fight as they have had in many a day. Under old conditions five alarms would have been sent in. While the blaze was a hummer from the very start the fourteen engines that responded weren't called upon to pump a drop of water into the burning building.

Six hundred thousand gallons of water pumped from the Oliver street high pressure station drowned out the flames, and sixteen lines of hose, including one from the deck pipe of the high pressure tender No. 20, and water tower No. 1 did the job. The system worked admirably from the moment the firemen made connections with the high pressure hydrants and got the tower and the tender working, but the fire was so fierce that it was nearly an hour and a half before the flames were conquered.

The building runs back two hundred feet to 73 and 75 Wooster street, and its depth and the fact that the fire started in the center of it are other reasons why three alarms were sent in. The firemen were unable to get at it from a good point of vantage.

The fire was seen first by Policeman Roger McCoy of the Macdougal street station. He saw smoke trickling through the windows on the fourth floor, which was occupied by S. N. Beck & Co., manufacturers of ladies' undergarments, whose workroom was on the fifth. McCoy pulled the box at West Broadway and Broome street and when Deputy Chief Martin dashed up the flames had a big start and had eaten up to the fifth floor. The high pressure tender was stationed on the West Broadway side and the water tower unlimbered in front of the Wooster street side and both got into action with a pressure two hundred pounds to the square inch. Chief Martin soon saw, however, that the fire was gaining headway, and after he had watched the battle seven minutes he tapped in a second alarm and had street lines stretched in.

An engine company crew mounted the fire escapes on the West Broadway side to get a high pressure steam playing into the building, but it was so smoky and hot on the fourth floor that they had to back down. Time and again with the deck pipe from the tender shooting water over the heads they climbed the iron ladders, and Chief Martin sent in a third alarm, so he could have enough men to work in relays in their attempts to stretch in the street lines.

There was water enough, but it takes four or five men to handle a high pressure nozzle and the fire was going with such intensity that it required a lot of lines. Sixteen of them, all high pressure, were going full tilt at 2:23 o'clock, twenty-five minutes after the first alarm was tapped in.

Sheets of flame and dense clouds of black smoke were gushing from the windows on the fourth and fifth floors and the air was filled with sparks and blazing brands.

Chief Martin after a while thought he had the fire down, but suddenly there was a rumble and then a terrific report.

In the center of the building was a wide shaft and over it a glass skylight. This came down with a crash, and a few seconds later the fourth and fifth floors, weakening under the weight of the tons of water, collapsed.

Thousands of tons of debris and goods on the lower floors straddled near the shaft crashed down to the ground floor, where fifteen men of Fire Patrol No. 1 were covering goods with tarpaulins. They heard the rumbling noise before the crash came and made a bee line for the street. Six of them were at work at the bottom of the shaft and just got out of the way in the nick of time. One of the fire patrolmen, James Cooley, was struck by a beam and bowled over, but escaped with a wrenched kneecap. He was attended by Ambulance Surgeon Roberts of the Hudson street hospital and removed to his home. Up to that time the fire had not eaten down to the lower floors and was principally confined to the fourth and fifth, but the shower of blazing goods that dropped through the shaft set fire to everything below.

The firemen stretched in lines on the ground floor while others got into action on the fire escapes and an hour later Chief Martin saw that he had won. It was the first big fire at which the engines were silent. There was no tooting of whistles for fuel, no engines pumping, no "Give us more water, thirty-three," or "Shut down, twenty-four." The high pressure proved its efficiency, but yesterday's fire showed that while it has revolutionized fire fighting the department still has to have as many men as of yore. With a pressure of from 100 to 200 pounds a nozzle kicks more'n a mule, and where two men can handle an engine line it takes four or five to direct a high pressure pipe.

Deputy Fire Commissioner Whitney and Deputy Police Commissioner Bugher, who were on the scene, said the high pressure worked wonders. Policeman McCoy estimated the damage at \$50,000, but insurance men on the job said \$200,000 would be nearer.

Sergeant Ahlers, who had charge of the fire reserves from five precincts, kept track of thousands two blocks from the fire on the four sides and did his job so well that he was personally complimented by Commissioner Bugher.

The occupants of the building are A. J. Sells & Co., dealers in sponges and toilet articles, who occupy the ground floor; Sells & Scherr, sponger manufacturers, on the second; I. Gerstein, manufacturer of muslin underwear, on the third; and S. N. Beck & Co. on the fourth and fifth.

HOSPITAL NURSE ARRESTED.

Suspected of Taking Patient's Rings—Sends the Rings Back.

Magda Wagkamp, a trained nurse who had been employed in the private hospital conducted by Mrs. E. L. King at 220 West Forty-fifth street, was locked up at Police Headquarters late last night under suspicion of the theft of two diamond rings, valued at \$1,500, which were missed by one of Mrs. King's patients on December 5. The woman denied that she had taken the diamonds and gave the police a good previous record.

According to the complaint which Mrs. King made at Headquarters on December 16 Mrs. Ferguson Brown of Louisville, Ky., who is one of the patients at the hospital, had put her diamonds in her trunk on December 5 before leaving her room for a short period. When she returned they were gone. Mrs. King could not bring any direct evidence against the nurse save that to say that since she had been employed at the hospital many petty thefts had been noted and that the nurse had access to the room where the patient kept her jewels.

Miss Wagkamp, who is a Hollander, told the detectives that she came to this country on the same steamer with the late Lieut.-Gen. John M. Schofield at the time that he was returning from Europe just before his death in 1906. The General had met her, she said, and had engaged her to be his nurse. She was with him until he died at his home in St. Augustine, Fla.

After the nurse had been booked at Headquarters the detectives started to take her to the Mercer street station, where she would be given over into the hands of a nator. As Miss Wagkamp descended the steps at Headquarters a man met her and walked with her to the station.

About an hour later the same man, so it was proved subsequently, appeared at Mrs. King's hospital and handed her a package wrapped in a brown paper and sealed with a two-cent stamp. The package was addressed "Mrs. Brown, 220 West Forty-fifth street."

Mrs. King detained the messenger on the pretext of having to get a receipt from Mrs. Brown. The two women opened the package and found within it the two missing rings.

Mrs. King kept the man at the hospital on a pretext while she notified Headquarters. A detective appeared and put him under arrest. He was booked at Headquarters as a suspicious person.

After his arrest the man said that he was Walter Deselers of 330 East Ninetieth street, a friend of Miss Wagkamp. He added that when the nurse was leaving Headquarters she brushed against him and subsequently told him in German that there was a package in his pocket which he should mail immediately.

After the nurse had been locked up in the station he had decided, said Deselers, that it would be better to deliver the package in person and had gone straight to the address written upon the wrapper.

HUSBAND SUES MINISTER.

Alleges That Wife Had Secret Code for Correspondence With Preacher.

UTICA, Jan. 3.—School Commissioner D. N. Boynton of Newport, Herkimer county, has brought an action for \$30,000 damages against the Rev. Edward F. Hard, former pastor of the Baptist Church at Newport, alleging alienation of the affections of Mrs. Boynton. The papers in the action have just been served.

According to the complaint in the action Mr. Boynton alleges that following his return from a two years stay in Kentucky in the early summer of 1904 he noticed that the clergyman was very friendly with Mrs. Boynton, but thought nothing of it until the people of Newport called his attention to the matter; that his wife refused his request to discontinue her relations with the Rev. Mr. Hard, and that subsequently, discovering a bunch of letters which he alleges passed between the minister and Mrs. Boynton, he separated from his wife. One of the letters which it is alleged the Rev. Mr. Hard wrote to Mrs. Boynton runs in part as follows:

"You will never know how much my dear sweetheart is to me nor how I long to look into those dear old lights again. They are the stars that have, oh, so often, spoken joy and cheer to my heart. I have certainly never had a doubt of the reality or quality of my attachment, but I have come to realize more fully how completely it possesses my whole being."

Then follows a whole lot of dots, mixed with some words that would indicate that the writer knew what he was doing. After the dotted came the words, "Don't you think so?" Then peculiar marks and a long dash. Then follows:

"You may have to study a while on this page, but I wanted to say all this and more to you to-day, feeling as I do; yet I do not care to enlighten even a possible outsider into whose hands you know this might perchance fall."

School Commissioner Boynton alleges that his wife and the Rev. Dr. Hard had a secret code which they used in much of their correspondence and that the clergyman interspersed the love notes which it is claimed he wrote with the letters "M. O. E. Q." (My Own Beautiful Queen) and "D. S." (Dear Sweetheart).

Mr. and Mrs. Boynton are among the wealthiest residents of the village of Newport and up to the time of their separation a few months ago were prominent in religious and social affairs in the community. Mrs. Boynton has a fortune of more than \$50,000 in her own right. The Rev. Mr. Hard was arrested at Fredonia a few days ago, but is now at liberty under bail.

RAINES ENDS HIS VISIT.

Has Not Been Sounding a Trumpet, Whatever He Was After.

Senator John Raines, who is to try to get a State constabulary bill through the Legislature again, has been in town for two days. Senator Raines has been going about very quietly and it could not be learned whether or not he had been investigating police conditions here. He gave up his room at the Grand Union yesterday afternoon and returned to Albany. Part of his business while here, it is said, concerned the makeup of the Senate committees, which will be announced on Tuesday.

SAVED THE NEW BABY FIRST

THEN THE MOTHER AND NURSE AT A FIRE IN FLATBUSH.

Seven Sleeping Children Also Jeopardized, but the Older Ones Rescued the Juniors—Mother and Nurse Badly Burned—Police Docks Bayed Alarm.

Lady and Donna, police dogs of the Parkville station, bayed out the first alarm early yesterday morning of a fire which partly destroyed the two family house at 424 East Fourth street, Flatbush, jeopardizing the lives of seven sleeping children and a helpless woman with her new-born baby.

The house, a two-story and attic frame structure of Queen Anne style, was occupied by Samuel Stevenson, who works in the Surrogate's office in Brooklyn, and by Charles McCafferty, a lawyer of 373 Fulton street, who used to be counsel to the State Comptroller. Stevenson, the owner, reserved the first floor and attic for himself and let out the second floor to McCafferty.

Saturday night the Stevensons went out for the evening, first putting the children to bed. There were five of them that Mrs. Stevenson called good night to as they trudged up stairs to their cots under the eaves. They were Helen, 10 years old; Dorothy, 5; Marion Thomas, 17, and Alice Thomas, 11, two nieces whom the Stevensons brought up. Besides these there was little Nixon O'Neill, who had come from his home at 530 Eastern Parkway in the afternoon to play with the Stevensons and children and who begged so hard to stay over night that his mother let him.

"You'll look out for them, won't you?" Mrs. Stevenson asked Miss Mary Ryan, the young nurse from St. Mary's Hospital, who had come to care for Mrs. McCafferty when a boy was born nine days ago.

Miss Ryan promised and the Stevensons went out. Pretty soon it was bedtime for the McCafferty children, too. They are Kathleen, 8 years old, and Mary, 6, and they were tucked into their cribs in the little bedroom back of their parents' apartment.

Mrs. McCafferty and Miss Ryan also retired early, the patient being put into the "big bed" and the nurse lying down beside her. Mr. McCafferty slept in a another room.

At 2 in the morning Mrs. McCafferty awoke and Miss Ryan got up to give her an alcohol bath. Nobody knows exactly what happened after that. Miss Ryan had her back turned to the bed while she was preparing the bath, and when she looked around again she saw a crawling blue flame that widened and widened along the table top from an ash receiver in which there lay a lighted match.

She turned screaming to put out the flame and in doing so must have knocked over the uncocked bottle of alcohol. Any way, it tipped over. In an instant the blue flame leaped from the table on to the bed in which Mrs. McCafferty lay with her child upon her arm.

"Take the baby," she said quite calmly. "Never mind the fire," Miss Ryan snatched a quilt from the foot of the bed, which had not yet caught, wrapped the child up in it and then, as Mr. McCafferty burst through the door, she passed it to him.

By the time she got back to the bed Mrs. McCafferty's night clothes were afire. She put them out barehanded and had her bundled up and ready for Mr. McCafferty to carry out when he reappeared.

At East Fourth street and Beverly road, a long block away, Policeman Clement Christiansen and George Wise of the Parkville station were passing the time of night. Suddenly their dogs, Lady and Donna, lying at their feet, began to whine and strain at their leashes. The policemen gave the dogs their heads and they were piloted to the burning house, where they arrived just as McCafferty was taking out his wife. Nobody had thought yet to turn in an alarm, and one of the policemen ran back to do it, while the other helped in the rescuing.

Upstairs Christiansen found John Robinson, a neighbor, of 418 East Fourth street, reeling about in the smoke with Miss Ryan, who had fainted in his arms. Both were badly burned. Without police help they might not have escaped.

The children upstairs, meantime, were cowering in their beds, bewildered by the noise and confusion below. Finally Marion Thomas put her head over the railing and smelled the smoke that came up from below. "Alice," she said quietly to her sister, "there's a fire downstairs, and we've got to get the children out. There's nobody else here. I'll take Nixon. You lead the other two."

She flung the boy, still sleeping, over her shoulder, and started down. Alice followed, leading the two other children by the hand, too sleepy to see anything. On the way down the little party had to pass the open door into the bedroom, which by that time was burning fiercely. The McCafferty children had escaped early by the back way.

The fire burned for perhaps three-quarters of an hour. When the firemen got there they held it pretty well to the floor where it started and to the attic above. The damage is put at \$10,000.

Miss Ryan and Mr. McCafferty were removed to the Kings County Hospital, both badly burned. Miss Ryan's nightgown had caught fire and she was so badly burned that she may die. She is 22 years old. Mrs. McCafferty and her baby were taken to the home of the family physician, Dr. Edward G. Hynes of 80 Ocean Parkway. Mrs. McCafferty was badly burned and is suffering as well from shock, but will probably recover. The baby was unharmed.

CAB STRIKE DECLARED OFF.

Open Shop Remains the Rule and Men Who Could Go Have Gone Back.

The strike of the cabmen was officially declared off last night after a meeting at the headquarters of the men at Eighteenth street and Eighth avenue. It has been off to all practical purposes for a week and the men have been going back to work as fast as they could get back their old places. The end of the strike finds the employers in a stronger position than before, as the men go back under an open shop agreement except some few of them who signed under a special agreement.

POISON FOR NEW YEAR'S GIFT.

Box of Chocolates Left With Loving Note Contained Arsenic.

WINCHANDON, Mass., Jan. 3.—Miss Florence Oakes of this town narrowly escaped death on New Year's eve by poison. Miss Oakes was visiting her mother, Mrs. George H. Webb, at Pawtucket when a young man rang the door bell. Mrs. Webb answered. He handed her a package and hastened off. Mrs. Webb opened the package and detected a white spot on one of the chocolates in the box. She ran after the young man, but was unable to get a glimpse of him.

When she returned she was just in time to prevent Miss Oakes from eating the chocolates. On Friday she reported the circumstance to the authorities. The box was turned over to George E. Perkins, a chemist. He found arsenic in the candy. In the box was this note:

DEAR ONE: Please accept a small gift from one who thinks of you often. For you only. Wish you a happy New Year.

FROM AN OLD SWITZERLAND.

The handwriting is evidently that of a woman. Several strange occurrences force Mrs. Webb to believe that deliberate attempts are being made upon her life. On February 12 last her husband received an anonymous letter from a woman admirer who said she had looked into his cosy home, would like to become his mistress and suggested means by which he might make Mrs. Webb angry and get a separation. The handwriting on the New Year's card and this letter are identical.

Soon after the receipt of the letter Mrs. Webb one morning found a milk bottle at her door. It was not the same quantity she usually received and was not in the same place, and besides she had received her usual supply. This milk was thrown away.

MANCHU SUCCEEDS YUAN.

Only Two Chinese Now on the Grand Council—Seant Courtesy for Reformer.

SPECIAL CABLE DISPATCH TO THE SUN. PEKING, Jan. 3.—The dismissal of the Grand Councillor Yuan Shih Kai, which caused universal surprise, continues to be discussed. It is noted that the edict depriving him of his offices is less courteous than is customary in such cases.

It is also thought significant that Na Tung's admission to the Grand Council leaves only two Chinese members of that body. Na Tung being a Manchurian.

Liang Lung Yen will succeed Yuan Shih Kai temporarily.

LONDON, Jan. 4.—The Pekin correspondent of the Times cables that a meeting of the representatives of eight of the great Powers, held at the United States Legation Sunday, decided to invite the consent of their respective Governments to their making friendly representations to the Regent, not with a view to the reinstatement of Yuan Shih Kai, because that is an internal affair of China, but to express the hope that the dismissal of that statesman, whose presence in the Government inspired confidence abroad for its stability, may not be due to a reversal of the policy of which he was the recognized exponent.

There is considerable anxiety about the future. Yuan Shih Kai's fall may affect others who owe their advancement to his influence, especially Tang Shao Yi, whose mission cannot hope to receive a favorable hearing from the Powers who are now witnessing the creation of a disturbing situation.

LODGE SPOKE FOR MEYER.

Went to Augusta to Urge Him for a Place in Taft's Cabinet.

AGUSTA, Ga., Jan. 3.—Senator Henry Cabot Lodge of Massachusetts came here to suggest the name of George von L. Meyer, the present Postmaster-General, for a post in the Taft Cabinet. Unofficial Cabinet builders have from the start mentioned Mr. Meyer as a strong possibility, preferably for Secretary of the Treasury. Mr. Meyer is one of Mr. Taft's best friends and it is known that Mr. Taft still has his name under consideration. Senator Lodge left Augusta for Washington this afternoon.

Mr. Taft attended the Protestant Episcopal church this morning and spent the afternoon in visiting friends. The Birmingham, Ala., delegation who spoke so eloquently in the cottage yesterday remained in the city over Sunday and took National Chairman Frank H. Hitchcock back home with them when they left to-night. Most of the delegates are Democrats, but they did not appear to be shocked over the prospect of going home with the Republican national chairman in tow.

Mr. Hitchcock said frankly that he was going over to Birmingham to get better acquainted with the delegation and the city. He will be back in Augusta Tuesday morning.

It is expected that Senator Knox will arrive Tuesday or Wednesday.

THE FLEET AT SEZ.

It Will Take Several Days to Pass Through the Canal—Plans Undecided.

SPECIAL CABLE DISPATCH TO THE SUN. SEZ, Jan. 3.—The American battleship fleet, Rear Admiral Sperry commanding, arrived here to-day, homeward bound. Two hundred of the officers have gone to Cairo, where Admiral Sperry and his staff will go to-morrow.

After calling at Port Said a few of the ships will go to Malta, Trieste, Italian ports, Algiers and Marseilles. Others will go to Messina with provisions and medical stores and assist in the work of relief.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—Rear Admiral Sperry, commanding the Atlantic battleship fleet, reported his arrival at Sez, at the south end of the canal, to the Navy Department to-day. It will require two or three days for the whole fleet to pass through the canal.

The vessels will take on board about 25,000 tons of coal at Port Said. As soon as the replenishing of the bunkers is completed they will be ready to start for the earthquake district in case it is decided to send them there. No reply has been received at the State Department from the Italian Government to President Roosevelt's offer to send the whole fleet or any part of it to the earthquake zone to render assistance.

The original itinerary provided that the battleships Georgia, Nebraska, Kentucky, Wisconsin and Illinois were to go to Italian ports, the first three to Genoa as fast as they could get back. The vessels will probably pass through the canal first in order that their coaling may be completed as expeditiously as possible in case it is decided to send them to Messina.

HOUSE TO HOUSE FOR MONEY

EAST SIDE ITALIANS MAKE SUNDAY COLLECTION DAY.

Cartloads of Clothes and Boxes of Money Brought In by Workers From Churches and Other Bodies—Carnegie Tops the Red Cross List With \$10,000.

The Red Cross had a long list of givers yesterday for the earthquake sufferers headed by a \$10,000 donation from Andrew Carnegie. Churches everywhere took up collections to be devoted to the needs of the Italians, the total amount of which will not be known for some days. On the East Side in the vicinity of Mulberry street, in the region of East 110th street and in the Sicilian quarter east of First avenue and immediately south of Fourteenth street house to house collections were made not only of money but of such clothing as the people could spare.

The men in charge of the collecting said that sometimes the people did not stop to think whether they could get along without their overcoats but threw them on the wagons just the same.

The Salesian Fathers' Church in East Twelfth street, of which the Rev. John Ferraz is rector, sent out yesterday morning a wagon through the parish and collected two loads of clothing and about \$700 in money from the people of the neighborhood. The Italian newspaper *Il Progresso* organized two similar invasions of the territory on the upper and lower East Side. Nunziante Forienza of the Italian Central Express Company contributed all the wagons which he had at his disposition and sent them out under the guidance of the recruits of *Il Progresso*. L. Vola of 58 James street gave the services of his band.

The procession started out at about 9 in the morning from the office of *Il Progresso* on Centre street. The one aiming for Harlem went to its destination without much ado, but the party which was out to cover the lower East Side set about its business immediately. It went up Mulberry street, and before it came back at 4 in the afternoon it had traversed the district bounded by Mulberry, Bleecker, Catharine and Cherry streets.

The young Italian women who volunteered their services went among the people with large tin boxes. Everybody came forward with money and clothing. Some of the wagons were filled to overflowing and had to go back to the office of the Italian Central Express Company and deposit their load. By 3 o'clock the room in which the clothing was stored was piled to the ceiling. The steamship lines, of course, will transport it free of charge.

The money came in nickels and dimes, quarters, half dollars and in a few instances bills. There were literally pounds of coppers.

The givers were by no means all Italians. There were Jews, Germans, Irishmen, Russians, Hungarians and all the nationalities that drift up and down the Bowery. Even Chinamen knew what the appeal was for and came forward with money. The young women let no one pass and the tenements and the saloons had to give tribute.

The boxes which they came back were very heavy. There were fourteen of them and each contained about \$170.

One of those who went with the wagons was Dr. Nicola Gigliotti of Erie, Pa., who is about to start for Italy with six companions to help with the work of rescue. He is the brother of the Mayor of Reggio and he believes that his brother perished in the demolition of the Calabrian town. He had with him the copy of a letter which he received a year ago last September from the Archbishop of Reggio. It ran thus:

NAPLES, Sept. 25, 1907. Dr. Nicola Gigliotti: When after twenty-five years of absence I remember your old master, of whom you had so many controversies on account of the Darwinian doctrine, I cannot call you any more Spiritus Procellarum (Spirit of the Storm). Thank you, Doctor, thank you. I will keep very dear the picture of your body and of your children. You say you will come in the near future to visit Italy. I cannot think any more of anything but the eternal life. The prosperity of the soul is the only thing I wish to me and to you. We will not meet any more. You are in America; I am at Reggio. I will die before long. I will not see the ruin of this poor city. If the ruin comes and I am gone bring some of your energy among the unfortunate. It will be perhaps the last wish of your affectionate,

G. CARDINAL PORTOYANO. The Cardinal died six months ago. The contributions to the American Red Cross, 500 Fifth avenue, yesterday amounted to about \$22,000. Andrew Carnegie led off with \$10,000. Thomas F. Ryan, Amos E. Eno and the Newark Evening News sent \$1,000 apiece. William Iselin & Co., Mrs. Morris K. Jesup and Robert S. Brewster were down for \$500 apiece.

Subscriptions to the Italian Relief Fund of the New York Stock Exchange have amounted to \$35,000. The subscription list contains the names of about 240 individuals or firms. Those subscribing \$500 or more are De Coppel & Doremus, \$1,000; Newburg & Co., \$500; Clarence E. Chapman, \$500; Francis L. Leland, \$1,000; Asid & Co., \$500; Moore & Schley, \$500; James B. Colgate & Co., \$500; R. L. Day & Co., \$500; Chauncey & Co., \$500; A. Iselin & Co., \$500; Henry Clews & Co., \$500; Homans & Co., \$500; De Coppel & Co., \$500; Spencer, Trask & Co., \$500; F. S. Smithers & Co., \$500; Henry R. McHarg, \$1,000.

RICH MAN KILLS HIMSELF.

Fires Bullet Into His Head in the Presence of His Wife.

AMERICUS, Ga., Jan. 3.—Col. J. C. Roney, the wealthiest man in southwest Georgia, blew out his brains about 9 o'clock this morning in the presence of his wife.

Col. Roney complained of feeling ill this morning and did not rise for breakfast. After Mrs. Roney finished breakfast she returned to her husband's room. As she entered the door she saw Col. Roney, who was sitting up in bed, place a revolver to his head and pull the trigger. It is believed that he was temporarily deranged. He was a brother of Judge George Roney of Augusta.

Transfer Time. Cases of all kinds for transferring old correspondence from active letter files to the files of the past. Write to J. C. Roney, 220 N. 5th St., New York, N. Y.

NEW PLOT TO KILL THE CZAR.

Many Arrests After Explosion of a Bomb in a St. Petersburg Cafe.

SPECIAL CABLE DISPATCH TO THE SUN. LONDON, Jan. 4.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Daily Mail says that several persons have been arrested at Tsarskoe-Selo in connection with a supposed Terrorist plot against the imperial family.

The discovery of the plot resulted from the accidental explosion of a bomb that was laid on a table in a cafe on Nevsky street on the night of January 2 by a student.

A waiter was killed by the explosion.

CROKER'S NINETEEN GUESTS.

He Gives a Dinner at the Club to Return Hospitality.

Some of the members of the Croker old guard dined with their former chief at the Democratic Club last evening. Mr. Croker was the host and his old friends sat about a horseshoe table with him.

Mr. Croker starts for Palm Beach this morning and the dinner was given to return the hospitality which had been extended to him since his arrival. Most of the guests invited by Mr. Croker were officeholders at one time or another when Mr. Croker was heading out the plums and they drank his health and wished him many more years. The guests were: Ex-Senator John Fox, Andrew Freedman, John W. Keller, Senator Thomas F. Grady, Supreme Court Justice M. Warley Plafzek, John J. Scannell, Edward Sheehy, Michael T. Daly, George F. Spinney, Thomas L. Feitner, Dr. John B. Cosby, Municipal Court Justice Herman Joseph, J. B. Hasselocher, Henry W. Unger, John Whalen, Judge Warren W. Foster of the Court of General Sessions, C. C. Hughes, Magistrate Henry Steinert and Richard Croker, Jr.

PITTSBURGERS ASK PRAYERS.

U. S. Judge, Head of Police and Councilman Ask Gypsy Smith's Intercessions.

PITTSBURG, Pa., Jan. 3.—Gypsy Smith, the evangelist, stirred Pittsburg to-day and forty policemen were required to keep the crowds from forcing their way into Exposition Rink after the hall had been filled. The unusual sight of the head of the city's police department, a judge of the United States Court and the alleged leader of all the grafting councilmen rising at one time to ask that they be prayed for was one scene in the rink this afternoon.

When Smith asked all those who wanted to be prayed for to rise Edward Lang, Superintendent of the Department of Public Safety; United States Judge John Ruffington, and Councilman John Klein all rose.

To-night the police department had to close all streets leading to Exposition Rink.

CASTRO HAS A BAD TURN.

Taken Again to Sanatorium of Dr. Israel for Speedy Operation.

SPECIAL CABLE DISPATCH TO THE SUN. LONDON, Jan. 4.—According to the Berlin correspondent of the Daily Mail ex-President Castro's condition has suddenly become worse.

He has been hurried